

CHESTERTON RURAL DISTRICT

IN THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE
AND THE ISLE OF ELY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

for

1968

P. K. SYLVESTER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H., D.(Obst.), R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer of Health,
Chesterton Rural District Council,
Shire Hall,
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Tel. No.: Cambridge 58811

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GENERAL STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area: Land	111,692 Acres
Number of Parishes	53
Rateable Value (31.3.69)	£1,809,383
Sum represented by a penny rate	£7,515
Number of inhabited houses (31.3.69)	18,369
Estimated mid year Home Population (1968)	51,580
Census Population 1961	44,576

The district is of a mixed urban and rural nature with the villages near Cambridge acting largely as a dormitory area for the City.

Birth Rate	17.5
(Corrected)	16.5
Death Rate	11.1
(Corrected)	9.4
Infant Mortality Rate	12.2

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor S. W. Wilkin, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor C. Bavester

Councillors:

D. J. L. Allen	Mrs M. V. V. Lewin, J.P.
H. Allgood	B. F. Falkner-Lewis
R. Barker	G. M. Macfarlane-Grieve, M.A.
Mrs M. Brown	T. B. Robinson (until December 1968)
W. M. J. Bulleid	R. W. Thulborn
E. A. Easy	Mrs A. Tweed (from March, 1969)
Mrs D. F. Hall	W. A. Watts
J. Jopling, M.B.E.	Mrs A. G. Wood
Mrs J. M. Lawfield	

Staff:

Medical Officer of Health	P. K. Sylvester, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H., D.(Obst.), R.C.O.G.
Chief Public Health Inspector	E. B. Newman, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	N. D. Addison, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.
District Public Health Inspectors	P. E. L. Reed, M.A.P.H.I. (Left 8.11.68) B. W. Hutchings, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. W. A. Barchi, M.A.P.H.I. (from 27.1.69)
Clerks	R. N. Steel (left 5.1.69) Mrs J. Hullyer

To the Chairman and Members
of the
Chesterton Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1968, prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/69 dated January, 1969.

Vital Statistics

The estimated population increase in 1968 was 1,080 and was about double the usual trend for recent years, but not as much as the estimated population increase for 1964 (1,460). The birth rate at 17.5 per thousand estimated population was slightly higher than that for the previous two years. The death rate was also higher, at 11.1 per thousand estimated population, but is in keeping with the figure for some of the years during the last decade. Much of the numerical increase in deaths during 1968 occurred in both sexes aged 75 years and over, though the figure (21) for males aged 45-55 years was double that for last year. However, there has been some fluctuation in the numbers of deaths within the individual age-sex groups during the past few years, with the exception of the females aged 75 years and over, where a more or less steady upward trend has occurred. In connection with this increase in the number of deaths amongst the elderly during 1968, it is perhaps worth noting that the number of deaths from pneumonia (89) was higher than in 1967 (52). The figure of 117 deaths for ischaemic heart disease cannot really be compared with last year's figure of 97 for Coronary Disease/Angina, because a new revision and re-classification of the International Classification of Diseases has been introduced in the meantime. The number of deaths from cancer (all forms) was virtually the same as for last year, but the deaths from lung cancer in males was 24 (16 in 1967) whereas it was only 3 (4 in 1967) for females; 20 of the male deaths due to this cause were fairly evenly divided between the individual age groups 55 years and over.

The infant mortality rate was again lower than in the previous year, as indeed was the perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and stillbirths), though the early neonatal mortality rate (infant deaths under one week per thousand live births) was a little higher (6.6 as opposed to 5.7). Nevertheless, I think the general downward trend in infant mortality in this county district over the past ten years can be regarded as reasonably satisfactory. Seven of the eleven infant deaths that occurred during 1968 were in babies under one month of age, six of them during the first week of life. Five of the seven neonatal deaths were due to congenital defects and two were due to prematurity. The four deaths which occurred amongst the older infants were probably due to varying forms of infection.

Infectious Diseases

In keeping with the biennial trend there were fewer cases of measles (264) in 1968 than in 1967. Some increase in the number of cases began to occur towards the end of the year, but the numbers were possibly not as great as they might have been owing to the commencement of immunisation with measles vaccine in the early summer. There was a drop in the number of cases of scarlet fever on the figure for 1967, whilst the number of cases of whooping cough were about the same as for the previous year.

Four cases of dysentery were notified, whilst a further nine came to our notice from other sources. Six of the cases occurred in two families (three cases each); in one of these families the same three cases originally infected were found still to be carriers three months later when the mother submitted specimens for routine bacteriological examination in connection with her application for a post as a hospital ward domestic assistant. Another case contracted shigella boydii whilst going on a holiday route in Tunisia where several of the same party apparently complained of diarrhoea during their sojourn there. One other case contracted dysentery whilst staying in Nigeria.

Twenty seven cases of salmonella food poisoning were either notified or ascertained from other sources during 1968. Twenty-one cases were due to salmonella typhi-murium, four cases were presumed to be due to salmonella enteritidis and two cases were due to salmonella dublin. Eleven of the twenty-one cases due to salmonella typhi-murium occurred in one general outbreak, involving an establishment for residential courses, six in family outbreaks of two cases each, and four were sporadic cases. The source was never firmly established in any of these outbreaks despite thorough investigation and enquiry. The presumptive cases of salmonella enteritidis occurred in four companions who had been holidaying together with a touring party in Spain; all four had complained of abdominal pain and diarrhoea while on

holiday, but on subsequent bacteriological examination here it transpired that only one person's specimen was 'positive'. The two cases of salmonella dublin occurred in a family where the husband, as part of his duties, slaughters casualty animals (calves) brought in from local farms for subsequent consumption as animal food.

Nineteen cases of Infective Jaundice were notified during the year, most of them occurring in the first and last quarters. Most of the cases occurred in villages near the City where cases have been notified fairly steadily during the past two years or so. Infective Jaundice has been notifiable in East Anglia since 1943, but was made notifiable nationally as from June 1968. It was later included in the list of notifiable diseases prescribed by the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968.

The number of cases of respiratory tuberculosis (8) notified during 1968 was the highest since 1963, and underlines the necessity to maintain both vigilance and the appropriate preventive and curative services despite the gradually diminishing role that tuberculosis now plays in the gamut of pulmonary disease. Five of the eight pulmonary cases notified were males and three were females, their respective ages ranging from 29 years to 67 years. As far as is known, none of the cases were connected.

Environmental Circumstances

A further 216 dwellings were completed during 1968, six of them being very generously financed by a private donor; this has helped to reduce still further both the active and pending housing waiting lists. Fewer unfit properties remain to be dealt with than at the end of the previous year, and many of the tenants who require rehousing from these properties will need only small units of accommodation. The situation concerning the need for the provision of emergency accommodation has eased somewhat, but in this connection the opportunity for purchasing suitable substandard property for repair on a short term basis should never be overlooked. The Council continues to encourage owner/occupiers to improve their properties by means of discretionary and standard grants, but it remains to be seen how much more the new Housing Bill will help in this respect, once it becomes law. As far as the future housing programme is concerned, it is current government policy to encourage the building of more accommodation for the elderly.

As indicated in the body of the Chief Public Health Inspector's report, the policy laid down in 1967 in association with the County Planning Authority for the provision of new caravanning sites is being implemented gradually. The question of the provision of a site for holiday accommodation or caravans in transit is still under review.

The Cambridge Water Company is continuing in its work of extending and improving the sufficiency of supply within the area. The wet summer of 1968, however, afforded some respite from the demands upon the public water supplies during that period. For the reasons given in the report, no further steps were taken during the year to implement optimal fluoridation of the public water supplies.

The department continues to co-operate by generally supervising the chlorination of school swimming pools throughout the district.

With the unstinting aid of the hard-pressed public cleansing staff the Chief Public Health Inspector has continued to maintain the refuse collection and disposal service. At the time of writing the possibility of the provision of a pulverisation plant for the southern area of the district, jointly with other neighbouring authorities, is being actively pursued. The Chief Public Health Inspector also refers to the problem of dealing with abandoned motor vehicles under the Civic Amenities Act 1967, with special reference to the need to ensure that these vehicles do not accumulate in scrap dealers' yards.


With the steady progression of the Council's sewerage programme one looks forward to a much reduced cesspool emptying service and to the eventual abolition of any need to provide a nightsoil collection service. During the year work commenced on the sewerage of the parishes of Dry Drayton, Oakington, Fen Ditton and Horningsea. It is hoped that the latter scheme will be completed during the latter half of 1969. A considerable amount of work is being done by the department in assisting in the preparation of the outstanding schemes laid down in the Council's sewerage programme. Indeed, it is probably fair to say that more schemes would actually be under construction than is the case if it were not for the current financial restrictions. It is also noteworthy that a full-time sewage works manager has been engaged for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of adequate standards of effluent from the various sewage works owned by the Council. The disposal of sewage sludge presents an increasing problem and it may well be that, despite the cost, incineration by one method or another will have to be the ultimate answer.

The Pests Officer and his operator had a busy year controlling the rat population in the district. For one reason or another, the wet summer was thought to be mainly responsible for this.

CHESTERTON AND SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS

*With the Compliments of
the Medical Officer of Health*

SHIRE HALL,
CASTLEHILL,
CAMBRIDGE.



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The department continues to carry out its duties under the Clean Air and Noise Abatement Acts, and in this connection I am pleased to report that some of your public health inspectors attended courses during the year in both these subjects.

The Chief Public Health Inspector refers to the need to maintain adequate stock rotation in bake-houses. He also points out the advantages inherent in the prior registration of preserved food premises and feels that extension of this procedure to all food premises would be beneficial. There is a need for constant attention to good food hygiene practice in all its aspects, as well as to strict personal cleanliness, by all those responsible for the manufacture, sale, or preparation of food (wherever this occurs). Indeed, at a recent conference on food hygiene it was stressed by one speaker that several of the larger outbreaks of gastro-intestinal diseases in recent years, in which a food vehicle was involved, had occurred as a result of faulty techniques in food storage or preparation (in its widest sense) in establishments that otherwise had a high standard of cleanliness.

Though this district has not been affected by the new Imported Food Regulations 1968 as yet it is prudent to point out that this may well occur in the future, involving your public health staff in further duties possibly at not very convenient times.

I am glad to report that the department's efforts in implementing the Offices, Shops, and Railway Premises Act within this district appear to have borne fruit. As the Chief Public Health Inspector points out, only minor contraventions were discovered, in the main, during follow-up visits.

This is my last annual report as your Medical Officer of Health and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairmen (past and present) and members of the Public Health Committee, and indeed all members of the Council, for the kindness, courtesy, support and interest that they have shown or extended towards me during my tenure of office. At the same time I must record my gratitude to Mr Flint, the Clerk, and to all the other Chief Officers and officers of the Council for their friendly and ready help. To Mr Newman, Mr Addison, and all the other members of the public health department who have assisted me so ably and so loyally during the past six years, I must accord a special word of thanks.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

PETER SYLVESTER

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

(The mid-year home population is used for the statistical calculations)

Live Births								<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	470	400	870
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	14	34
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	490	414	904
Birth rate per thousand estimated population								..	..	17.5
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (0.94)								..	..	16.5
Birth rate per thousand population (England and Wales)								..	..	16.9
Still Births								<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	4	9
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	4	9
Rate per thousand live and still births								..	..	9.9
Rate per thousand live and still births (England and Wales)								..	..	14.0
Deaths								<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	292	282	574
Death rate per thousand estimated population								..	..	11.1
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.85)								..	..	9.4
Death rate per thousand population (England and Wales)								..	..	11.9
Infant Mortality. Deaths of infants under one year of age.								<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 (3)	6 (4)	11 (7)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 (3)	6 (4)	11 (7)
(Deaths of infants under four weeks of age are shown in brackets.)										
Infant Mortality Rate. (Infant deaths under one year per thousand live births)								..	..	12.2
Infant Mortality Rate. (England and Wales)								..	..	18.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate. (Infant deaths under four weeks per thousand live births)								..	..	7.7
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate. (Infant deaths under one week per thousand live births)								..	..	6.6
Perinatal Mortality Rate. (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and still births)								..	..	16.4
Legitimate Infant mortality rate per thousand legitimate live births								..	..	12.6
Illegitimate Infant mortality rate per thousand illegitimate live births								..	..	—
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births								..	..	3.8
Maternal Deaths. (Deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)								..	..	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per thousand live and still births								..	..	Nil
Deaths from cancer (all ages)								..	..	99
Deaths from tuberculosis (all ages)								..	..	2
Deaths from pneumonia								..	..	89
Deaths from Ischaemic Heart Disease								..	..	117

CERTAIN COMPARATIVE RATES

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
*Birth Rate	17.6	18.3	18.6	18.5	18.2	20.1	18.7	18.2	17.0	17.3	17.5
*Death Rate	11.2	11.3	11.1	10.5	10.1	11.3	10.2	9.8	10.3	10.3	11.1
Infant Mortality Rate	24.1	12.7	20.7	14.3	7.0	12.5	12.0	11.1	14.1	13.7	12.2
	(18)	(10)	(17)	(12)	(6)	(12)	(11)	(10)	(12)	(12)	(11)

*These rates are uncorrected The figures in brackets are the number of infant deaths in each year

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

<i>Ages</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 4 weeks .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	7
4 weeks and under 1 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
1 and under 5 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
5 and under 15 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
15 and under 25 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	6	—	6
25 and under 35 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	9
35 and under 45 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	9	5	14
45 and under 55 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	21	14	35
55 and under 65 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	46	25	71
65 and under 75 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	71	60	131
75 and over .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	124	169	293
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	292	282	574

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Medical Officer of Health

In order to bring about some realignment in the appointment of county district medical officers of health within the administrative county area, it was decided during 1968 to revoke the 'Cambridgeshire United District (Medical Officer of Health) Order 1951'. As from September 1 1968, the Medical Officer of Health for Chesterton and South Cambridgeshire Rural District Councils relinquished his appointment as Medical Officer of Health for Newmarket Rural District Council, at the same time devoting a greater proportion of his time to his other appointment as Deputy County Medical Officer to the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council

Public Health Inspectors

Mr E B Newman and Mr N D. Addison remain Chief Public Health Inspector and Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector respectively; Mr B. W. Hutchings continues as District Public Health Inspector. Mr P. E. L. Reed left us in November 1968 to take up an appointment as Public Health Inspector to Braughing R.D.C., Hertfordshire. His place as District Public Health Inspector has been taken by Mr W. A. Barchi, who came to us from Wellington U.D.C., and took up his duties early in 1969. Mr R. Steel, who had been appointed as junior clerk with a view to becoming a student public health inspector, also left us towards the end of 1968.

Laboratory Facilities

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, undertakes bacteriological and biological examinations of milk and bacteriological examinations of water samples, and all necessary examinations in cases of infectious disease.

Hospitals

Cases of infectious disease are treated at the Isolation Hospital, Cambridge. So far as general hospitals are concerned, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, deals with the majority of cases from this area. The hospitals situated within the county district area are the Fulbourn Hospital for mental diseases, the Ida Darwin Hospital for the mentally subnormal (also at Fulbourn), and Papworth Hospital for the treatment of tuberculosis and other thoracic conditions. The latter hospital is also connected with the Papworth Village Settlement.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (Infectious Diseases) REGULATIONS, 1968

The above Regulations came into force on 1 October 1968 and consolidate with amendments all previous Regulations relating to the notification and prevention of infectious disease except the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925. Amongst other items the list of notifiable infectious diseases has been amended; acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia, acute rheumatism, erysipelas and puerperal pyrexia are no longer notifiable, whereas tetanus, yellow fever, and leptospirosis are now notifiable.

No notices have been issued during the year under these Regulations, or under the previously operated Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1953, but four were issued under Section 41 of the Public Health Act 1961.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS 1968

Age in Years	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Infective Jaundice
Under 1 year	—	2	14	—	—
1	—	3	18	—	—
2	1	3	37	—	—
3	1	2	39	—	1
4	5	4	39	—	—
5-9	7	28	111	1	4
10-14	1	3	3	—	—
15-24	1	1	2	1	5
25 and over	—	1	1	1	9
Age unknown	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	16	47	264	4	19
1967 Totals	28	43	600	22	15

Age in Years	Acute* Pneumonia	Erysipelas*	Puerperal* Pyrexia	Food Poisoning
Under 5	—	—	—	2
5-14	—	—	—	—
15-44	1	1	—	4
45-64	—	3	—	1
65 and over	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	4	—	7
1967 Totals	1	6	—	5

*Ceased to be notifiable as from 1 October 1968

TUBERCULOSIS

Eight respiratory cases were notified for the first time during the year and one non-respiratory. On balance at the end of the year the number of persons on the respiratory register decreased by four.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1968

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non Respiratory</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. Number of cases on register at commencement of year	32	14	4	12	36	26
2. Number of cases notified for first time during the year under regulations	4	4	1	—	5	4
3. Cases restored to register	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Cases added to register otherwise than by notification under regulations						
(a) Transferred from other Districts	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) From Death Returns	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Number of cases removed from register	9	3	—	—	9	3
6. Number of cases remaining on register at end of year	27	15	5	12	32	27

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION RESPIRATORY AND NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS CASES ON REGISTER 31.12.68

AGE GROUP	Male		Female		Total		GRAND TOTAL
	<i>Resp.</i>	<i>Non Resp.</i>	<i>Resp.</i>	<i>Non Resp.</i>	<i>Resp.</i>	<i>Non Resp.</i>	
0—15	—	1	—	2	—	3	3
16—25	2	1	3	—	5	1	6
26—35	3	—	7	2	10	2	12
36—45	3	—	3	2	6	2	8
46—55	8	1	1	1	9	2	11
56—64	3	1	1	2	4	3	7
65 and over	8	1	—	3	8	4	12
TOTALS	27	5	15	12	42	17	59

PUBLIC HEALTH (AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS 1966

Towards the end of the year the firm of general practitioners which had been appointed to assist the Medical Officer of Health in implementing the above Regulations at the Cambridge Airport indicated their desire either to terminate the agreement or for its modification. After some amicable negotiation it was decided that it would be better to terminate the agreement, and Dr B. W. M. Macartney (with whom your Medical Officer of Health has formal deputising arrangements), Dr C. G. Eastwood and Dr B. J. Cooper kindly agreed to be appointed in their stead.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951, Section 1

No action was necessary during the year under these Acts.

NATIONAL HEALTH ACT, 1948, Section 50

No burials were effected during the year under the provisions of this section.

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. B. NEWMAN

A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.

PARISH STATISTICS

Parish	Acreage	Population 1961 Census	Planning Estimated 1968 Population	Total No. of Dwellings* Rate Books 31.3.69	No. of Separate Council Dwellings 31.3.69		Rateable Value 31.3.69	1d. Rate Product
					Pre-1945	Post 1945		
Bar Hill	350	—	280	113	—	17	12,880	64
Barton	1,834	788	920	324	29	12	30,246	125
Bourn	4,116	832	850	296	28	66	22,434	92
Boxworth	2,602	194	190	68	—	4	3,414	14
Caldecote	1,007	368	400	167	—	—	6,205	27
Caxton	2,242	368	380	128	10	29	13,371	54
Childerley	1,069	13	30	10	—	—	519	2
Comberton	1,954	812	1,590	605	36	62	46,580	207
Conington	1,522	148	150	47	4	8	2,253	10
Coton	970	519	740	320	32	57	21,563	95
Cottenham	7,224	2,415	3,230§	1,310	90	231	96,998	390
Croxton	1,909	155	130	66	—	8	2,811	10
Dry Drayton	2,071	450	490	179	27	22	13,093	52
Elsworth	3,839	476	570	225	18	18	9,486	40
Eltisley	1,970	253	350	134	16	21	6,364	27
Fen Ditton	1,474	674	650	230	34	26	20,480	82
Fen Drayton	1,492	489	540	168	7	38	14,469	56
Fulbourn	5,263	2,906	4,100§	1,131	87	254	122,683	510
Girton	1,878	3,115	3,440§	1,073	40	122	137,858	562
Grantchester	1,392	418	560	252	25	93	21,613	89
Graveley	1,582	204	210	69	6	20	3,253	12
Hardwick	1,438	460	460	181	18	—	8,702	37
Harlton	1,261	285	310	116	21	11	17,451	72
Harston	1,751	1,186	1,220	421	44	82	33,775	144
Haslingfield	2,948	855	1,000	365	28	58	30,612	138
Hauxton	591	484	530	180	15	4	41,349	202
Histon	1,889	3,258	3,540	1,309	76	140	179,214	740
Horningsea	1,647	355	320	131	9	20	4,826	18
Impington	1,710	1,232	1,240	474	42	48	56,449	237
Knapwell	1,236	113	100	34	—	6	1,776	8
Landbeach	2,225	648	690	249	34	16	16,652	68
Lolworth	1,110	123	110	39	—	14	2,127	9
Longstanton	2,779	1,723	2,020||	582†	29	62	62,575	274
Madingley	1,768	262	230§	64	—	7	8,244	38
Milton	2,050	857	1,710§	666	29	28	62,652	254
Newton	994	306	340	106	16	8	5,725	28
Oakington	1,850	698	980§	349	34	52	32,831	133
Over	3,737	908	1,130	468	16	27	35,513	150
Papworth Everard	1,157	1,130	1,180§	282	—	—	59,623	189
Papworth St Agnes	1,298	63	40	26	—	—	894	4
Rampton	1,372	256	280	114	8	12	6,177	25
Shelford, Great	2,070	3,761	3,950	1,399	80	208	144,046	584
Shelford, Little	1,196	717	870§	295	31	36	26,244	110
Stapleford	1,835	1,548	1,560	533	29	16	58,352	238
Stow-cum-Quy	1,879	447	450	159	—	34	9,040	36
Swavesey	3,982	964	1,030	369	18	75	37,107	158
Teversham	1,221	808	770§	287	39	62	67,361	267
Toft	1,285	332	470	181	21	12	15,690	64
Waterbeach	5,750	2,561	2,390||	936‡	67	192	82,058	364
Westwick	333	37	50	14	—	—	521	2
Wilbraham, Great	2,921	448	460	175	20	8	10,229	41
Wilbraham, Little	1,990	388	340	140	10	24	7,671	30
Willingham	4,659	1,766	2,010§	810	98	141	47,756	213
Utilities							27,568	120
Totals	111,692	44,576	51,580	18,369	1,321	2,511	£1,809,383	£7,515

* Including Council Dwellings and Caravans

† Including 260 Service Dwellings

‡ Including 135 Service Dwellings

§ Including Hospitals, College and Institutional Residents

|| Including Civilian Dependents of Servicemen and Servicemen

(Property purchased by the Council and reconditioned classified as Post 1945)

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(Mr E. B. Newman, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.)

The following is a summary of inspections carried out during 1968:

TOTAL INSPECTIONS RECORDED	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,804
General Sanitation									
Sewage Scheme Surveys	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Miscellaneous Visits re Complaints, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	598
Visits re Drainage or Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	429
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
Water Samples Taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Factories Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150
Visits re Verminous Persons or Property	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Public Cleansing Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	316
Shops Acts, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	252
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Swimming Pools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	133
Burial Grounds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Animal Boarding Establishments and Pet Shops Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	280
Civic Amenities Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
National Assistance Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Gypsies Survey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Flooding	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Inspection of Food and Food Premises									
Visits re Sampling (Milk and Other Foods)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Visits to Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	518
Poultry Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Butchers Shops and Preserved Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	205
Ice Cream Premises (Retailers)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
Cafes, Restaurants, Canteens, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
Food Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	146
Other Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Licensed Premises (Public Houses, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Housing									
Housing Inspections (P.H.A. 1936)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	407
Reinspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	116
Housing Inspections (Housing Acts)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	214
Reinspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	413
Inspections re Standard Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
Ancient Buildings, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Rehousing Applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	424
Infectious Diseases									
Visits and Enquiries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	388

HOUSING

1. Total Number of Council Houses erected between 1920 and 1939.. .. . 1,320
2. Post War Housing Progress:

		<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Non-Traditional</i>	<i>Prefabs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Dwellings completed in	1946	18	—	5	23
"	1947	52	16	45	113
"	1948	77	10	—	87
"	1949	21	70	—	91
"	1950	115	—	—	115
"	1951	133	—	—	133
"	1952	106	—	—	106
"	1953	184	—	—	184
"	1954	229	70	—	299
"	1955	121	28	—	149
"	1956	90	—	—	90
"	1957	102	—	—	102
"	1958	69	—	—	69
"	1959	126	—	—	126
"	1960	14	—	—	14
"	1961	18	—	—	18
"	1962	24	—	—	24
"	1963	56	—	—	56
"	1964	11	—	—	11
"	1965	15	—	—	15
"	1966	212	164	—	376
"	1967	90	—	—	90
"	1968	216	—	—	216
Totals		2,099	358	50	2,507

(These figures are exclusive of conversions into flats and conversions of hutments)

Total Number of dwellings completed by the Council post war up to 31.3.69:

Prefabricated Bungalows	..	..	55
Bungalows	..	..	597
Flats	..	..	122
Non-Traditional Houses	..	..	301
Hut Conversions (now demolished)			225
Permanent Houses	..	..	1,432
Total	..	..	2,732*

*Including 164 Industrial Dwellings of various types and 17 new houses purchased by the Council.

Dwellings in course of erection or contracts prepared at 31.3.69:

Traditional Houses	..	..	23
Traditional Bungalows	..	..	Nil
Traditional Flats	..	..	Nil
Industrial Houses	..	..	Nil
Industrial Bungalows	..	..	Nil
Industrial Flats/Maisonettes	..	..	Nil
Total	..	..	23

3. Private Development:

Number of houses built by private enterprise year ending 31.3.69:

Permanent Houses	..	..	427
Flats	..	..	19
Total	..	..	446

Total number of private dwellings erected post war (31.3.69) 4,866

TABLE No. 1

REVISED SLUM CLEARANCE SCHEDULE AS AT 31 MARCH, 1969

Parishes	Total Listed 31.3.69	Undertaking	Closing Order	Demolition Order	Repaired	Remainder
Bar Hill	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barton	4	—	—	1	—	3
Bourn	14	1	1	2	1	9
Boxworth	5	—	—	—	2	3
Caldecote	31	—	2	10	—	19
Caxton	6	—	—	3	—	3
Childerley	—	—	—	—	—	—
Comberton	9	2	6	1	—	—
Conington	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coton	14	—	—	1	10	3
Cottenham	85	11	12	29	21	12
Croxton	6	—	1	—	—	5
Dry Drayton	8	—	1	3	2	2
Elsworth	5	—	—	2	1	2
Eltisley	7	—	—	5	—	2
Fen Ditton	11	1	1	1	4	4
Fen Drayton	3	—	—	—	1	2
Fulbourn	24	—	3	10	5	6
Girton	5	—	—	4	1	—
Grantchester	6	1	—	2	3	—
Graveley	3	—	—	1	1	1
Hardwick	12	1	2	2	—	7
Harlton	2	—	1	—	—	1
Harston	31	3	4	9	5	10
Haslingfield	21	2	1	10	2	6
Hauxton	2	1	—	—	—	1
Histon	24	2	3	12	4	3
Horningsea	14	—	11	—	—	3
Impington	3	—	2	—	—	1
Knapwell	4	—	—	2	2	—
Landbeach	16	—	1	8	1	6
Lolworth	2	—	—	2	—	—
Longstanton	7	—	1	4	—	2
Madingley	5	—	—	5	—	—
Milton	7	—	—	1	—	6
Newton	3	—	—	—	3	—
Oakington	3	—	—	1	—	2
Over	23	5	—	8	4	6
Papworth Everard	—	—	—	—	—	—
Papworth St Agnes	7	2	1	—	1	3
Rampton	7	1	—	3	—	3
Shelford, Great	19	1	1	6	3	8
Shelford, Little	17	—	6	5	5	1
Stapleford	12	2	—	8	—	2
Stow-cum-Quy	15	—	3	—	1	11
Swavesey	39	1	5	29	2	2
Teversham	5	—	3	2	—	—
Toft	2	—	—	—	—	2
Waterbeach	36	8	3	22	—	3
Westwick	6	—	1	—	—	5
Wilbraham, Great	3	1	—	—	—	2
Wilbraham, Little	11	—	—	1	—	10
Willingham	41	3	10	20	1	7
Totals	645	49	86	235	86	189

4. Slum Clearance

The Council has reached the point where the major part of their Slum Clearance Programme has been completed. It is only to be expected however that a few additional properties will be scheduled from time to time depending on the owner's attitude to 'reasonable cost' of repairs and in particular the value of the cleared site. Table No. 1 shows the current position as at 31.3.69, based on the revised schedule prepared in accordance with Circular 11/65. It will be noted that during the year 28 properties were re-categorised and added to the schedule making a total of 645 unfit properties listed of which 235 have been demolished or are the subjects of operative demolition orders, 135 are the subjects of closing orders or undertakings under Section 16(4) Housing Act, 1957, 86 have been repaired leaving a remainder of 189 to be dealt with. These are mostly borderline cases often owner/occupied and will be dealt with as opportunity permits and without creating undue hardship for the tenants involved.

Since the preparation of the original Slum Clearance Schedule in 1956 it will be noted that a total of 1,354 unfit dwellings have been listed and action has already been taken on 1,165 of them—a notable achievement bearing in mind that these have been dealt with by individual action in all cases, but the present financial restrictions and the high cost of building will undoubtedly serve to emphasize the necessity for the preservation and improvement of existing dwellings—probably with the aid of higher improvement grants envisaged in the new Bill before Parliament.

During the year under review sites at Grantchester, Swavesey, Waterbeach and Willingham have been finished off, providing a further 210 dwellings together with six new bungalows at Barton—financed by a private donor.

The Department continues to work closely with the Housing Manager in the maintenance of a factual and realistic waiting list of applicants for Council accommodation and reports in detail on each new application. At 31 March, 1969 there were 237 applicants on the Active List and a further 347 on the Pending List (low priority classification).

The following figures summarise the action taken by the Public Health Department during the year ending 31.12.68:

Houses Inspected	621
Reinspections made	199
Demolition Orders made	7
Houses Demolished	69
Undertakings Accepted	21
Closing Orders made	18
Demolition or Closing Orders Lifted	34
Houses made fit (excluding Improvement Grants)	97
Visits re applications for Council Accommodation	424

It is not anticipated that more than 80 or 90 tenants will require rehousing from the 189 unfit houses remaining to be dealt with and in most cases small units—even one bedroomed accommodation—will suffice.

In the main these can be provided for from the casual vacancies which occur at the rate of some 200 per annum and it may be said with some confidence that the rehousing requirements for the current Slum Clearance Programme have been satisfied. Tenants of the small number of dwellings which become unfit subsequently can be absorbed without undue difficulty and there is little indication of any need for further house building for Slum Clearance—based on current legislation. No doubt higher standards of fitness will evolve as a result of the Dennington Report.

Since the introduction of the Housing Act, 1930 the following total action has been taken (up to 31.3.69):

Houses demolished (formally)	904
Houses demolished (voluntarily)	195
Houses subject to Undertakings	142
Houses (or parts) Closed	308
Houses made fit by Statutory Action	105
Houses made fit by informal action (excluding Improvement Grants)	1,782

5. Temporary Accommodation

The improvement in the housing situation generally and the greater security afforded to tenants by the Rent Act, 1965 has reduced the need for emergency accommodation. Most urgent cases can be rehoused

fairly quickly from casual vacancies and should the need arise short term emergency accommodation is provided by the County Welfare Services.

One could wish that more consideration might be given to the purchase by the Council of substandard or 'twilight' property for repair on a short term basis—thereby affording more flexibility in dealing with 'problem' families and families evicted for arrears of rent.

To date 15 such cottages have been purchased, 6 have been demolished subsequently and 9 reconditioned. A further 18 such cottages have been rejected on investigation.

No properties are held on requisitioning.

6. Improvement Grants (Discretionary)

The Council has operated this scheme since its inception in 1949 (apart from two short periods of suspension owing to the large number of applications in hand).

A summary of the action taken since 1949 (up to 31 March, 1969) is appended herewith:

Total applications for grants received	697
Total applications for grants approved	659
Total applications for grants disapproved or withdrawn	30
Total number of dwellings involved	874
Total cost of approved work (not withdrawn)	£515,075 10 8
Average total cost per dwelling	£589 6 3
Total amount of grant involved	£228,326 14 7
Average amount of grant per dwelling	£261 4 10
Total payments made up to 31.3.69	£215,948 10 1

Approved schemes made provision for the following:

Laying on internal water supply	179
Installation of hot water system	831
Provision of water closet	755
Provision of bath	794
Provision of sink/wash hand basin	506
Provision of new or improved drainage	789
Provision of gas or electric points	744
New heating appliances	540
New or improved food storage	419

Additional accommodation

(a) Living Room(s)	130
(b) Bedroom(s)	92

It is interesting to note that the dwellings included in approved schemes were owned as follows:

Owner/occupiers	403
Small property owners	237
Large Individual Property Owners (exceeding 10)	36
Estates, Property Companies, etc.	191

Improvement Grants (Standard)

The Public Health Department has always been responsible for the initial inspection and report on all standard grant applications since this aspect is complementary to the Department's other work in connection with unfit housing generally. It affords a positive approach with tangible results and every encouragement is given to property owners to take advantage of grant facilities, especially in those villages which have been recently sewered.

Up to 31 March, 1969 a total of 1,149 such applications have been received of which 651 have received final approval, 561 have been completed and 23 are in progress.

Generally speaking, the Standard Grant with a maximum of £350 is preferred to the Discretionary Grant (maximum £400) since it is paid on final cost which reduces the initial procedure and is simpler in practice. The increased grants envisaged by the new Housing Bill will be welcomed in order to meet the ever increasing cost of building work but it is perhaps regrettable that it is intended to abandon the compulsory improvement powers contained in the 1964 Act. These powers were admittedly far from satisfactory being cumbersome and extremely protracted. They did, however, provide an effective stick to use if the carrot of improvement grants failed. The rent provisions of the new Housing Act will also serve to encourage landlords to improve their properties with the aid of a grant.

7. Rent Acts 1965-68

The County Council has appointed a Rent Officer as required by the 1965 Act which introduced control of rents and tenure in some cases and establishes a procedure for determining (or agreeing) fair rents.

Generally speaking, rents in rural areas are mostly equitable and only rarely is the Rent Officer called upon to arbitrate (some 15 cases were referred to him from this area during 1968). Undoubtedly his services will be in greater demand if the new Housing Bill becomes law since permitted rent increases may be dependent on the state of repair of the property and the facilities provided. Much closer liaison will then be necessary between the Public Health Inspector and the Rent Officer in the consideration of applications for rent increases.

The sample Census carried out in 1966 revealed that only some 16% of the total houses in the area are privately let (excluding Council houses) and this figure is constantly diminishing. Most landlords prefer to offer their properties for sale once possession can be obtained and these are quickly snapped up for owner/occupation.

8. Old Peoples' Bungalows

The Council's recent policy has been directed towards the provision of small units of accommodation, including a high proportion of old peoples' bungalows in order to supplement the preponderance of three bedroomed houses constructed in the pre-war and immediate post-war period.

The original old peoples' unit (18 bungalows with resident warden) erected at Histon in 1956 set the pattern since when similar units have been constructed at Grantchester (24 bungalows and warden) Waterbeach (24 units and Warden) and Willingham (44 units and warden). Twenty-two bungalows for old people were also erected in association with a County Council old peoples' home at Cottenham. Small bungalow sites have been developed at Girton (15) Great Shelford (11) and Longstanton (19).

It is perhaps unfortunate that recent schemes have not always received Ministry approval owing to (1) the high cost of bungalow construction and (2) the Council's proposals for utilising 'infilling' sites not being acceptable.

It would seem that the future trend must be towards flats or maisonettes rather than bungalows.

9. The Remaining Need

It will be noted that the Council now owns nearly 4,000 dwellings representing 20% of all dwellings in the area and a further 23 houses are under construction. In addition, it is estimated that there is a casual vacancy rate of some 200 dwellings per annum.

The Slum Clearance Programme has virtually been completed and tenants of the few remaining condemned and scheduled properties can be absorbed without undue difficulty.

The current Active Waiting List after careful revision shows a total of only some 237 cases (including Slum Clearance cases) with urgent claims for rehousing.

In addition, the recent completion of large estates in Grantchester, Swavesey, Waterbeach and Willingham has enabled a determined effort to be made to reduce the under-occupation of the three bedroomed Council Houses, thereby releasing these for larger families.

Having regard to all these factors it will be seen that the overall housing situation in the Council's area has improved considerably as the result of building nearly 700 new dwellings in the last three years, and the careful revision of the Waiting List.

In fact, there is little indication of any necessity for further large scale building by the Council apart from a modest annual programme of small units for old persons, which are always welcome.

In any case for the time being the Council is no longer permitted to build houses for general needs and the future programme envisaged is confined to approximately 50/60 old peoples' dwellings per annum for the next two or three years. It is anticipated that the following schemes will go to tender in the Autumn of 1969 subject to Ministry approval:

Milton 12 dwellings
Coton 12 dwellings
Comberton 18 dwellings
Impington 18 dwellings

Whilst the Council now has a considerable fund of dwellings of various types to meet the demands of applicants the curtailment of further large scale building renders it even more essential that the available accommodation is allocated to the best advantage and only to those applicants whose need has been fully investigated and proved.

Unfortunately there is growing evidence that selection of tenants tends to be governed more by their ability to pay the high rents than their actual need and the most deserving cases—living in substandard or condemned accommodation—are precluded from accepting modern Council houses owing to the high rents and central heating costs, etc., notwithstanding the Council's excellent differential rent scheme. There is a growing opinion that whilst Parker Morris standards are very commendable the present high building costs and interest rates plus the enhanced occupational costs may justify a somewhat lower standard being accepted—at least for the immediate present. Whilst perhaps a realistic approach to a very real problem, such a course would still be regarded as a retrograde measure.

10. Moveable Dwellings

There has been no significant change in the caravan situation since my last report and Table No. 2 shows the distribution throughout the district as at 31 December, 1968. Unlike coastal authorities caravan sites in the area are almost exclusively residential, catering for the relatively large floating population in and around Cambridge.

With the improvement in the housing position generally there has not been the acute pressure on the available sites as in past years and the new Caravan Act, 1968 has brought a measure of security to existing caravan dwellers, although the charging of premiums for admission to the site is commonplace and can only be deprecated.

In November, 1967 the County Planning Authority accepted a policy report on the siting of caravans which has served to indicate areas where residential caravanning would be accepted—usually in the vicinity of certain well-defined areas of existing settlements, sufficiently large to absorb such development without detriment to the existing services or amenities. One new site at Cottenham has been approved as a result and the first stage (33 caravans) has been successfully completed and occupied. One site with only short-term planning consent (20 caravans) is being run-down.

Although there is good liaison between the Public Health Department and the Planning Authority, the procedure to satisfy both Authorities—especially in the case of a single caravan—is cumbersome and difficult to justify for a relatively short term project which does not involve permanent development in any case.

As previously reported there is an almost entire absence of any holiday accommodation or for caravans in transit (apart from seven Certificated Caravan Club sites) although the City Corporation is considering the provision of such a site in the City. Consultations have taken place with a view to co-ordinating the activities of the three Local Authorities concerned. The recent Countryside Act 1968 may serve to stimulate interest in this respect.

Most of the residential sites in the Council's area have fairly good facilities often in excess of the standards required by the Model Code.

In some cases only minimal facilities can be enforced owing to the relatively short term planning consent which tends to preclude the expenditure of the necessary capital.

A brief Summary of the position in the Council's area at 31.12.68 is appended below:

Licensed Caravan Sites Position as at 31 December, 1968

	<i>Sites</i>	<i>Caravans</i>
Total Licences in force	111	649
Sites with Permanent Planning Consent	27	463
Sites with Short-Term Planning Consent	84	186
Recreational Sites (included under Sites with Permanent Planning Consent)	2	24
		+ 15 Chalets
Applications Awaiting Planning Renewal	13	15
Applications Awaiting Planning Consent	4	44
Applications Refused Planning Consent prior to 31.12.67	99	1,223
Applications Refused Planning Consent since 31.12.67	12	50
Sites Run down or no longer required since 31.12.67	6	7
Site Licences requiring W.C.'s to be provided	34 (31%)	549 (85%)
Sites where W.C.'s have been provided	44 (40%)	558 (86%)
Sites where W.C.'s cannot be enforced	77 (69%)	100 (15%)

TABLE No. 2

DISTRIBUTION OF LICENSED CARAVAN SITES AS AT 31 DECEMBER, 1968

Parishes	Sites			Permitted Number of Caravans		
	Temporary Consent	Permanent Consent	Total	Temporary Consent	Permanent Consent	Total
Bar Hill	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barton	1	—	1	1	—	1
Bourn	3 (2)	—	3 (2)	3 (2)	—	3 (2)
Boxworth	— (1)	—	— (1)	— (1)	—	— (1)
Caldecote	1 (1)	2	3 (1)	1 (1)	10	11 (1)
Caxton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Childerley	—	—	—	—	—	—
Comberton	1 (1)	—	1 (1)	1 (40)	—	1 (40)
Conington	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coton	— (1)	—	— (1)	— (1)	—	— (1)
Cottenham	10	2	12	13	52	65
Croxton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dry Drayton	1 (1)	—	1 (1)	1 (1)	—	1 (1)
Elsworth	1	1	2	1	27	28
Eltisley	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fen Ditton	3	—	3	7	—	7
Fen Drayton	2 (1)	—	2 (1)	2 (1)	—	2 (1)
Fulbourn	2	1	3	5	20	25
Girton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grantchester	—	—	—	—	—	—
Graveley	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hardwick	1 (1)	—	1 (1)	1 (1)	—	1 (1)
Harlton	1	—	1	1	—	1
Harston	5	—	5	7	—	7
Haslingfield	3	—	3	3	—	3
Hauxton	2	—	2	8	—	8
Histon	6 (1)	—	6 (1)	16 (2)	—	16 (2)
Horningsea	1 (1)	—	1 (1)	3 (2)	—	3 (2)
Impington	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knapwell	—	—	—	—	—	—
Landbeach	1 (1)	—	1 (1)	1 (1)	—	1 (1)
Lolworth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Longstanton	9	—	9	33	33	66
Madingley	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milton	2 (1)	4	6 (1)	2 (2)	12	14 (2)
Newton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oakington	1	—	1	1	—	1
Over	1	—	1	1	—	1
Papworth Everard	1	—	1	2	—	2
Papworth St Agnes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rampton	— (1)	—	— (1)	— (1)	—	— (1)
Shelford, Great	3 (1)	3	6 (1)	35 (1)	57	92 (1)
Shelford, Little	2	—	2	2	—	2
Stapleford	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stow-cum-Quy	3	—	3	3	—	3
Swavesey	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teversham	3	2	5	11	51	62
Toft	2	—	2	5	—	5
Waterbeach	3	12	15	7	201*	208
Westwick	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilbraham, Great	3	—	3	3	—	3
Wilbraham, Little	—	—	—	—	—	—
Willingham	6 (2)	—	6 (2)	6 (2)	—	6 (2)
Totals	84 (17)	27	111 (17)	186 (59)	463	649 (59)

* This does not include 15 chalets

Figures in brackets denote applications awaiting Planning Consent

Gypsies and Other Travellers

The Council is fortunate in having no serious problem with gypsies and other itinerants. The Department's survey in 1965 showed only 33 families on 21 sites. A later survey carried out by the County Welfare Department in 1968 revealed only 23 families in this area of which only three indicated their desire for a dwelling house. No permanent site was considered necessary in this area.

Every effort has been made to deal sympathetically with such families and any suggestion of harrassment has been avoided. As an experiment five year consents were granted to several families in the Cottenham area in the hope that given a measure of security efforts would be made to improve site conditions. Unfortunately, the response has been very disappointing and the families remain quite incorrigible.

In the summer months, there is still the problem of the so-called 'contractors' who move around in large groups allegedly carrying out tarmacing and other services for local farmers, etc. They occupy high-class caravans and have a large amount of ancilliary transport, often causing much concern to local residents especially in the smaller villages. After a reasonable period the site owner is contacted and made aware of his liabilities under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. This is usually effective.

WATER SUPPLY

Generally

On the 1 April, 1963 all the Council's water undertakings and those of other Authorities in the vicinity were transferred to the Cambridge Water Company under the provisions of the Cambridge Waterworks Order 1962. The whole of the Council's administrative area is now supplied by the Company which in total caters for a population of 210,000 spread over an area of some 453 square miles. The total length of mains in service is 896 miles of which some 156 miles has been laid in the past six years. During the year under review some 17 miles of new mains were laid and the current programme of new capital works include the construction of a number of service reservoirs and water towers. A new 200,000 gallon water tower at Over was completed during the year and work proceeded on the sinking and test pumping of boreholes for a new source of supply in the Bottisham area.

Sufficiency of Supply

The Company report that their general aim is to ensure that the volume of water held in store in each zone of supply is at least equal to one day's supply at the maximum rates of consumption experienced during peak periods.

The average daily consumption for all purposes for the year ending 31 December, 1968 has been 8,998,000 gallons as compared with 8,722,000 gallons for 1967 (an increase of 0.8 gallons per head per day from 42 to 42.8 for all purposes).

The year began with consumption of water being 6% higher than for the corresponding period in 1967 but a wet summer reversed this trend so that during June and July consumption was 2.5% lower than in 1967.

Rainfall for the year ending 31 December, 1968 was 27.86 inches which is 6.56 inches higher than average. Most of this increase took place during the summer months (April-September) being 19.82 inches which is 8.70 inches above average.

Chlorination and Softening

All supplies in the area are chlorinated and it is estimated that some 70% of all water supplied within the area of Chesterton R.D.C., is now softened (i.e. the sources at Fulbourn, Kingston and Harlton are softened before distribution).

Fluoridation

Samples taken by the Department prior to regrouping of the undertakings in 1963 showed fluoride estimations of local supplies as follows:

Cambridge Water Company (Chalk Supplies, Fulbourn)	0.1 to 0.15 parts per million
Chesterton and St Ives Joint Water Board (Mainly Greensand supplies)	0.1 to 0.21 parts per million
Harston Waterworks (Greensand supplies)	0.13 parts per million

In 1966 the County Council, as Local Health Authority, approved in principle the fluoridation of public piped water supplies to an optimal level in their area, subject to preparation of a scheme by the County Health Committee.

Since then, long and complicated discussions have taken place both with the Cambridge Water Company and with Central Government Departments from which it became apparent that there were considerable difficulties in producing a satisfactory scheme within the area because of the multiplicity of sources of water supply. The Cambridge Water Company proposed a phased scheme for implementing this policy which, in the first instance, would cover 60% of the population within their supply area. However, owing to existing staffing commitments, the difficulty of devising satisfactory equipment for very small sources, and the stringent economic situation, it was decided early in 1968 not to proceed with the detailed planning of the scheme immediately, but to review the situation after a year.

Sampling

As the public supplies are under close supervision by the Cambridge Water Company there is little necessity for routine sampling and these are confined to occasional check samples which are taken by the Department for submission to the Public Health Laboratories for bacteriological examination or to the Public Analyst for full chemical analyses where necessary. Samples are still taken from isolated private wells remaining in use and from the private sources in the vicinity of the Council's new refuse tip at Fen Drayton.

The Cambridge Water Company draws its supplies predominantly from the chalk but also from the lower greensand and to a lesser degree from the river gravels. In these circumstances the chemical analyses vary somewhat according to the locality from which the sample is obtained. A typical analysis for water supplied by the Company to the Cambridge area is as follows:

TABLE No. 3

Test										Cambridge Water Company
Physical Characteristics										Good
Reaction (pH Value)										7.2
Parts per 100,000										
Chlorine										2.55
Ammonia (free and saline)										Absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)										0.005
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C										0.03
Nitrites										Absent
Nitrates										0.55
Poisonous Metals										Absent
Bacteriological Examination										
Coliform organisms in 100 mls.										Nil
No. of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 37°C										Nil
No. of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 21°C										Nil
Hardness (parts per 100,000) (average)										22.0
Fluoride Estimation (parts per million)										0.1-0.15

TABLE No. 4
WATER SAMPLING YEAR ENDING 31.12.68

Parishes	Public Supplies				Private Supplies			
	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
	Chem.	Bac.	Chem.	Bac.	Chem.	Bac.	Chem.	Bac.
Barton	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dry Drayton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fen Ditton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fen Drayton	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
Girton	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newton	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Waterbeach	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	8	1	—	11	—	—	—

Summary of Work Carried out by the Department for year ending 31.12.68:

Total number of visits made re water supplies	78
Total samples taken	20

SWIMMING POOLS

Although public swimming facilities are not available in the Council's area at the present time, the City Authorities have three open air pools two of which are chlorinated and one indoor pool similarly treated. School children, however, are well catered for as the following table shows:

TABLE NO. 5

School	Type	Size of Pool	Remarks
Barton C of E	Purley No. 4	8,000 Gallons 33' x 17'	Oil Fired heating system
Bourn P	" " "	" " "	
Caldecote C	" " "	" " "	
Comberton C of E	" " "	" " "	
Coton C of E	" " "	" " "	Gas fired heating system
Cottenham C	" " "	" " "	
Cottenham V.C.	Purley Cottenham Pool	30,000 Gallons 76' x 25'	Oil fired heating system
Fulbourn C	Purley No. 4	8,000 Gallons 33' x 17'	
Girton Glebe C	Concrete Pool	22,000 Gallons 60' x 20'	
Grantchester	Purley No. 4	8,000 Gallons 33' x 17'	
Gt. and Lt. Shelford	" " "	" " "	Oil fired heating system
Harston C	" " "	" " "	
Haslingfield	" " "	" " "	
Histon and Impington C	" " "	" " "	
Longstanton	" " "	" " "	
Milton C of E	" " "	" " "	
Papworth C	" " "	6,000 Gallons 25' x 17'	
Stapleford C	Concrete Pool	22,000 Gallons 60' x 20'	Through School heating system—Oil
Swavesey V.C.	" " "	" " "	Oil fired heating system
Teversham C of E	Purley No. 4	8,000 Gallons 33' x 17'	
Waterbeach	Concrete Pool	22,000 Gallons 60' x 20'	Oil fired heating system
Willingham C of E	Purley No. 4	8,000 Gallons 33' x 17'	

All the above are outdoor pools in the main constructed by voluntary labour through Parent/Teacher Associations, and with the exception of those at Girton Glebe, Stapleford County and Waterbeach Junior School and Swavesey Village College, are of the package plant type.

The Principal School Medical Officer has arranged for all head teachers to keep records of comparator tests taken twice daily when the pools are in use and these are available for inspection by members of the Public Health Department. As a check, random readings are taken by the Department and advice given when difficulties arise.

Breakpoint chlorination with continuous circulation and filtration is operated at all pools and during the 1968 season satisfactory standards were maintained in spite of the heavy throughput of children.

A further pool is to be installed at Oakington County Primary in the near future and in addition to those shown in Table No. 5 it is intended to provide water heating systems at Coton and Papworth Everard Schools and Swavesey Village College, which will help to prolong the relatively short swimming season.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The Chief Public Health Inspector has remained responsible for the Cleansing Service since its inception in 1945. The service has developed over the years until a weekly refuse collection is now carried out throughout all the 53 villages covering an area of 174 square miles—a not inconsiderable achievement—albeit still only a kerbside collection. Any scheme in an area of this kind must of necessity be a costly one owing to the large area to be covered—necessitating the employment of a staff of over 30 collectors and an annual expenditure of some £43,000. Growing public opinion, especially amongst new residents in the necklace villages around Cambridge, will no doubt demand an improved service either by the collection and return of the bins or a paper sack system, either of which would inevitably add to the already high cost of the service.

The present collection schedules are carried out by a modern fleet of diesel engined vehicles which at the time of writing consist of six 50.0 cu. yd. compression vehicles of the continuous loading type and two remaining 16/18 cu. yd. fore and aft tipping vehicles, one of which is adapted for handling bulk containers where necessary. These two latter vehicles cannot be made to comply with the requirements of the Motor Vehicle (Construction and Use) Regulations 1966 and will have to be replaced by 31 December, 1972. It is also perhaps worthy of note that the Road Fund Tax on the larger vehicles now amounts to over £350 per vehicle per annum which seems a heavy price to pay for an essential, non-trading public service.

The service is operated from the Council's Depot at Oakington, which is shared by the Engineer's Department. The Depot is a modern one with good workshop facilities, but somewhat remote from an administrative point of view being some seven miles from the main offices in Cambridge. The rapid growth of the Council's fleet and plant has necessitated urgent consideration being given to the enlargement and replanning of the premises generally.

The recruitment and retention of staff of the right calibre still presents a problem, mainly occasioned by the retirement of the older hands who prove difficult to replace owing to the low national wage rates. The payment of a weekly bonus of 25/- has had only a transitory effect and the Council has now engaged a firm of Works Study Consultants to investigate and report on an incentive bonus scheme to meet the requirements of the Prices and Incomes Board. Initial survey work is due to commence in April 1969. It is hoped that the payment of a substantial incentive bonus will enable good staff to be recruited and retained in the face of keen competition from local contractors and better discipline maintained generally.

Weekly collection schedules are normally completed within a normal 40 hour five day week with very little overtime required. Annual holidays and Bank Holidays present something of a problem however since the Department is unable to call on labour from any other source. Some interchangeability of staff with other sections is obviously desirable.

Refuse Disposal

There can be no doubt that this problem is the most pressing one of all and since my last report much investigation and research has been undertaken to determine the most satisfactory long term solution for this area.

At present the Council operates three tips at strategic points (Fen Drayton, Landbeach and Thriplow) which collectively receive some 261 tons per week or 2,344 cu. yds. The old tip at Great Wilbraham has been filled and abandoned. At Fen Drayton and Thriplow full controlled tipping is implemented, aided by tracked shovels and an ample supply of overburden for covering purposes. This is, however, wasteful of tipping space and covering material and the two tips are likely to be filled within the next 3/4 years. The Council has been fortunate in securing long-term tipping facilities at Landbeach where gravel extraction is continuing, but obviously it would be most uneconomical to divert all refuse from 174 square miles to this one tip except as a last resort.

Discussions have taken place with the City Surveyor regarding the possibility of some joint scheme for both authorities either in the form of pulverisation or total incineration (which seems the only logical answer in the long term). The City Authorities feel confident however that they can continue to tip their refuse within the city boundaries providing it is first reduced to an acceptable form by pulverisation and have not expressed any great interest at present in a joint venture.

With tipping space to the North secured (Landbeach) attention was then focussed on the possibility of long term facilities to the South—possibly in conjunction with South Cambs R.D.C., and Royston U.D.C.—known to have similar problems. A Joint Report was prepared in December 1968 and a Joint Committee of the three Authorities established to examine the problem and, if necessary, visit refuse disposal plants of other Authorities. At the time of writing there appears to be a very real possibility of a plant being established in the Thriplow area, which would provide for the Southern half of this area, at present served by the Thriplow refuse tip.

The engineer faces similar problems with the disposal of the ever increasing amount of sewage sludge produced by the various sewage disposal plants in the area. This aspect is under active investigation with particular reference to the possibility of sludge being disposed of concurrently with the refuse. Such a scheme is unlikely to prove practicable however, except in those cases where one central sewage works can be sited adjacent to a refuse disposal plant.

Civic Amenities Act 1967 (Part III)

This Act places increased responsibilities upon Local Authorities for the cleaning up of the countryside and for preventing further unauthorised dumping of refuse.

The Council has always made available its three refuse tips for the reception of unwanted rubbish (other than trade waste), free of charge, and all parish councils were notified accordingly (Section 18).

The Department has been actively engaged in the removal of abandoned motor vehicles and similar bulky items (as required by Sections 20–23) and during the year six such vehicles were removed and suitably disposed of through normal trade channels. It would seem, however, that in those cases where the occupier of the land objects to the removal no further action can be taken. In no case was it necessary to institute proceedings for the abandonment as provided for in Section 19.

So far the number of abandoned cars in the area has been small and easily dealt with. A more difficult problem arises on the scrap dealers' premises where large unsightly accumulations of such items occur and are outside the provisions of the Act. It is pointless to stock-pile such vehicles on site for indefinite periods and the trade must ensure a continuous outlet for such materials if future trouble is to be avoided.

Collection of Salvage

The market situation still offers little encouragement to resume the separate collection and baling of waste paper and cardboard, bearing in mind the cost of labour and plant and the high fire risk resulting from the storage of this material. It does not seem beyond the realms of possibility, however, for waste paper to be separated and after processing at the mills to be returned to Local Authorities in the form of paper sacks at a much reduced cost, thereby facilitating more hygienic collections.

Statistics

Briefly, the cost statements for the year ending 31 March, 1969 reveal the following:

Total Mileage Travelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	94,467
Cost per Mile	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1/11d
Estimated tons of refuse collected and disposed of	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,657 Tons
Estimated net cost per ton (collection and disposal)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2 9 11
Estimated number of clearances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	955,188
Average cost per clearance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11d
Average miles per ton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.3 miles
Average miles per gallon (diesel)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.04 mpg
Net annual cost per 1,000 dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,386 17 3
Net annual cost per 1,000 population..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£850 0 6

Cesspool Emptying

The Council has always offered a cesspool emptying service to householders at a nominal charge (£2 minimum plus £1 for each additional load) and normally two 800 gallon cesspool emptiers are engaged on this work. During the year however one cesspool emptier has been employed almost exclusively on emergency work for the Council's Surveyor in connection with the enlargement of the Teversham Sewage Works. This has served to disorganise the service to private houses resulting in an unavoidable delay of (occasionally) up to 14 days before the execution of orders, which is most undesirable.

As will be seen elsewhere in this Report nearly 75% of all the dwellings in the area now have public sewers available and the cesspool emptying service is discontinued in these 24 parishes. Nevertheless, the demand for the service shows no signs of diminishing, probably due to the continuing development permitted in unsewered areas and the disparity between the charges made by the Council and those of private contractors.

Generally speaking, cesspool contents are disposed of by discharge to the public sewers at two points where sealed couplings have been provided to avoid any local nuisances. Alternatively, the Department has the use of specially allocated sludge drying beds at the larger sewage disposal works. By experience, disposal on agricultural land is seldom possible without nuisance or complaint and considerable mileage is involved to secure acceptable facilities.

One looks for a reduction in the need for this difficult service bearing in mind the rapidity with which the villages are being sewered and the fact that separate provision on a permanent basis will have to be made for the servicing of the many sewage disposal works both small and large for which the Engineer and Surveyor has maintenance responsibilities. At the time of writing one replacement vehicle of greater capacity (1100 gallons) is on order for delivery in the Autumn.

A summary of the work carried out during the year ending 31 March, 1969 is as follows:

Actual mileage travelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32,472
Estimated cost per mile	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1/3d
Number of clearances made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,219
Average cost per clearance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£3 8 5*
Number of loads disposed of	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,395
Average cost per load	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1 14 10*

* Abnormal due to circumstances outlined above

Night Soil Collection

No general collection of night soil is undertaken by the Council but a private firm of contractors has until recently offered a service throughout the district, albeit, somewhat reluctantly since it is almost impossible to find labour for this work. Charges to householders have been steadily rising and are usually 5/- per clearance. It now seems inevitable that this service will be terminated shortly and emergency plans are being made to take over the service at least temporarily in the case of old persons and householders who are unable to make their own arrangements.

In two villages (Grantchester and Caxton) the Council contracts for the clearance of a small number of pails from dwellings occupied by old age pensioners or where there is insufficient ground space available. (Grantchester 24 pails and Caxton 10 pails).

With the approaching completion of the Council's sewerage programme one can look forward to the elimination of this primitive form of sanitation and the unpleasant task of the collectors.

TABLE No. 6

TOTAL COUNCIL DWELLINGS AND SANITARY FACILITIES AVAILABLE AS AT 31 MARCH, 1969

Parishes	Bungalows		Houses			Flats	Others *	Total	Public Sewer	Estate Sewer	Other Means	W.C.	P.C.
	1B	2B	2B	3B	4B								
Bar Hill	—	—	—	17	—	—	—	17	17	—	—	17	—
Barton	6	—	1	34	—	—	—	41	—	12	29	17	24
Bourn	—	12	24	53	3	—	2	94	—	86	8	88	6
Boxworth	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	4	4	—
Caldecote	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Caxton	—	10	8	18	1	—	2	39	—	39	—	39	—
Childerley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Comberton	4	8	8	61	1	16	—	98	—	94	4	94	4
Conington	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	12	—	—	12	8	4
Coton	—	3	—	78	—	8	—	89	89	—	—	89	—
Cottenham	30	27	37	200	9	8	10	321	321	—	—	321	—
Croxton	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	8	8	—
Dry Drayton	12	2	—	33	—	2	—	49	—	33	16	45	4
Elsworth	3	5	—	28	—	—	—	36	—	6	30	18	18
Eltisley	4	8	—	24	1	—	—	37	—	37	—	37	—
Fen Ditton	—	2	8	48	2	—	—	60	20	18	22	38	22
Fen Drayton	6	6	7	24	2	—	—	45	—	44	1	45	—
Fulbourn	17	8	145†	147	6	2	16	341	341	—	—	341	—
Girton	15	20	12	110	5	—	—	162	162	—	—	162	—
Grantchester	24	12	25	57	—	—	—	118	118	—	—	118	—
Graveley	4	2	2	17	1	—	—	26	—	26	—	26	—
Hardwick	—	—	—	16	2	—	—	18	—	16	2	16	2
Harlton	4	—	—	27	1	—	—	32	—	—	32	11	21
Harston	5	19	12	85	5	—	—	126	98	—	28	98	28
Haslingfield	4	8	10	52	4	8	—	86	70	—	16	70	16
Hauxton	—	—	—	19	—	—	—	19	19	—	—	19	—
Histon	24‡	14	33	143	2	—	—	216	216	—	—	216	—
Horningsea	—	4	6	18	1	—	—	29	—	23	6	23	6
Impington	—	2	7	70	1	—	10	90	86	—	4	86	4
Knapwell	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	6	—	—	6	6	—
Landbeach	—	4	2	41	3	—	—	50	50	—	—	50	—
Lolworth	6‡	—	4	3	1	—	—	14	—	14	—	14	—
Longstanton	8	24	6	50	1	2	—	91	81	—	10	81	10
Madingley	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	7	7	—	—	7	—
Milton	—	—	—	52	3	2	—	57	57	—	—	57	—
Newton	2	2	—	20	—	—	—	24	—	—	24	8	16
Oakington	8‡	9	8	47	2	2	10	86	—	46	40	52	34
Over	—	7	6	26	—	—	4	43	43	—	—	43	—
Papworth Everard	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Papworth St Agnes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rampton	—	—	2	14	2	2	—	20	20	—	—	20	—
Shelford, Great	10	27	46	171	2	22	10	288	288	—	—	288	—
Shelford, Little	8	6	4	49	—	—	—	67	67	—	—	67	—
Stapleford	3	—	3	36	3	—	—	45	45	—	—	45	—
Stow-cum-Quy	—	6	8	19	1	—	—	34	—	34	—	34	—
Swavesey	15	10	17	46	3	2	—	93	75	—	18	83	10
Teversham	20	6	13	62	—	—	—	101	101	—	—	101	—
Toft	—	—	4	29	—	—	—	33	—	33	—	33	—
Waterbeach	22	18	57	121	3	33	5	259	249	10	—	259	—
Westwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilbraham, Great	—	—	—	27	1	—	—	28	—	—	28	8	20
Wilbraham, Little	—	6	6	21	1	—	—	34	—	24	10	24	10
Willingham	27	40	—	165	4	3	—	239	164	—	75	167	72
Totals	291	337	531	2,412	80	112	69	3,832	2,804	595	433	3,501	331
									73%	16%	11%	92%	8%

* Including Prefab Bungalows and Agricultural Houses

† Including 16 Maisonnées

‡ Bed Sitters and Bed Recess Bungalows Included

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The following statement shows concisely the position with regard to the sewerage of the Council's area. For administrative convenience, the statistics have been completed up to 31 March, 1969:

Statistical Information

Total number of Parishes in the area ..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Population Estimated 1968 (Planning) ..	..	..	..	..	..	51,580
Total number of Dwellings (31.3.69) ..	..	..	..	..	..	18,369

Parishes Already Sewered

Parish	Dwellings 31.3.69	Population 1968 (Planning)	Dwellings Connected	
			Council Houses	Private Houses
Bar Hill (New Village)	113	280	17	—
Coton (1967)	320	740	89	27
Cottenham	1,310	3,230	321	568
Fulbourn	1,131	4,100	341	573
Girton	1,073	3,440	162	817
Harston (1967)	421	1,220	98	117
Haslingfield (1967)	365	1,000	70	125
Hauxton (1967)	180	530	19	62
Harlton (1967)	116	310	—	40
Histon	1,309	3,540	219	967
Impington	474	1,240	86	262
Landbeach	249	690	50	74
Longstanton	582	2,020	81	57
Madingley	64	230	7	24
Milton	666	1,710	57	533
Over	468	1,130	43	301
Papworth Everard	282	1,180	—	280
Rampton	114	280	20	52
Shelford, Great	1,399	3,950	288	970
Shelford, Little	295	870	67	126
Stapleford	533	1,560	45	381
Swavesey	369	1,030	75	165
Teversham	287	770	101	82
Waterbeach	936	2,390	249	211
Willingham	810	2,010	159	349
25 Parishes	13,866	39,450	2,664	7,163
47% of all Parishes				

Parishes Where Schemes are in Progress

Parish	Dwellings 31.3.69	Population 1968 (Planning)	Progress
Dry Drayton	179	490	(Consulting Engineers) Work Commenced 1.4.68 Completion by early 1970
Oakington	349	980	
Fen Ditton	230	650	Work Commenced 1.4.68 Completion by August, 1969
Horningsea	131	320	
4 Parishes	889	2,440	

Parishes Where Schemes have been Prepared

Parish	Dwellings 31.3.69	Population 1968 (Planning)	Progress
Barton	324	920	S.W. Area Scheme. Inquiry held. Awaiting Ministry consent to proceed.
Comberton	605	1,590	
Grantchester	252	560	
Toft	181	470	
Stow-cum-Quy	159	450	Eastern Area Scheme. Inquiry Held. Approved in principle—Awaiting consent to proceed.
Wilbraham, Great	175	460	
Wilbraham, Little	140	340	
Fen Drayton	168	540	Local Inquiry held 1969. Awaiting approval.
Newton	106	340	Approved in Principle. Awaiting consent to proceed.
Bourn	296	850	Western Area Phase I Submitted to Ministry. Inquiry Held. Awaiting consent to proceed.
Caldecote (Part)	167	400	
Caxton	128	380	
Hardwick	181	460	
13 Parishes	2,882	7,760	

Parishes Where Schemes are in Course of Preparation

Parish	Dwellings 31.3.69	Population 1968 (Planning)	Progress
Croxton	66	130	Western Area Phase II for Submission to the Ministry in 1969
Eltisley	134	350	
Elsworth	225	570	
Graveley	69	210	
Knapwell	34	100	
Boxworth	68	190	Western Area Phase III In course of preparation
Lolworth	39	110	
Conington	47	150	
8 Parishes	682	1,810	

Parishes Not Yet Provided For

Parish	Dwellings 31.3.69	Population 1968 (Planning)	Progress
Childerley	10	30	Isolated Hamlet. No Scheme
Papworth St Agnes	26	40	Isolated Hamlet. No Scheme
Westwick	14	50	No Scheme
3 Parishes	50	120	

Summary of Progress to Date

	Parishes		Dwellings		Population 1968	% of Total Population
	No.	%	No.	%		
Parishes Sewered	25	47.0 %	13,866	75.4 %	39,450	76.5 %
Parishes Where Work is in Progress	4	7.5 %	889	4.9 %	2,440	4.8 %
Parishes—Schemes Prepared	13	24.5 %	2,882	15.7 %	7,760	15.0 %
Parishes—Schemes in Preparation	8	15.0 %	682	3.7 %	1,810	3.4 %
Small Parishes not Provided For	3	6.0 %	50	0.3 %	120	0.3 %
Totals	53	100 %	18,369	100 %	51,580	100 %

As will be seen from the above, some 75 % of the dwellings in the Council's area now have public sewers available. Work commenced in April, 1968 on the sewerage of four more parishes (889 dwellings) and it is anticipated that these two schemes will be completed by August, 1969 at a total cost of £593,500.

Schemes for a further thirteen parishes (2,882 houses) have been prepared, eight of which have been approved in principle and await consent to proceed. Five others are awaiting Ministerial approval.

It is hoped to submit two more area schemes to the Ministry in 1969 comprising eight parishes (682 dwellings). This will virtually complete the Council's sewerage programme with the exception of three small isolated hamlets of low priority (total only some 50 dwellings).

A scheme to remedy the overloaded condition of the sewers in the parishes of Great and Little Shelford and Stapleford commenced in 1968. This will enable the present embargo on new development in this area to be lifted. Plans are also in hand to divert part of the flow from Histon and Girton to the Council's new works at Bar Hill to relieve a similar situation in the Northern area.

The Council's problems do not cease with the sewerage of the villages since each scheme completed adds its quota of maintenance necessary and supervision. The growth of this aspect will be appreciated when it is realised that at the time of writing the following works are being maintained by the Council's Engineering Staff:

	<i>Public Health</i>	<i>Housing Sites</i>	<i>Private</i>
Sewerage Disposal Works:			
Under Maintenance	10	21	7
Under Construction	—	—	—
Pumping Stations:			
Under Maintenance	45	18	7
Under Construction	5	—	—

The provision and retention of sufficient staff for this purpose is always difficult and in order to ensure effluents of River Authority standards a full-time Chemist has been engaged. Disposal of large quantities of sludge produced from a number of works scattered throughout this extensive area is proving a serious and growing problem—even when the sludge has been mechanically dried. Some thought is being given to the possibility of installing plant which will deal satisfactorily with both sludge and domestic refuse, although the long haulage involved may render such a scheme uneconomical.

All current and future sewerage schemes include the provision of lateral drains to the boundary of existing properties—thereby facilitating connections and absolving the householder from any responsibility for constructions in the highway. No charge is made for the lateral drain providing application to connect is made within twelve months of the sewer becoming available.

Section 12 of the Public Health Act, 1961 is operated by the Council whereby (under certain circumstances) sewer costs can be recovered from frontagers where subsequent development occurs. Administration is difficult and long delay is inevitable before any claim for payment is made. This can create hardship for someone building a house for their own occupation, although perhaps more justifiable in the case of large scale development. It can also have an adverse affect on improvement grant schemes for small terrace type properties at a time when building costs are already almost prohibitive. Whether the operation of this section will prove of any great value in the long-term remains to be seen.

Generally speaking, only the present financial limitations imposed by the Government prevent the completion of the remainder of the Council's comprehensive sewerage programme for their area, most of which is ready for implementation as soon as consent can be obtained.

PEST DESTRUCTION

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 requires a Local Authority to ensure that all premises in the district are kept free of rats. This duty can be enacted by survey and serving of notices on occupiers of land where necessary, but the Council decided in 1950 that it was more advantageous and essential to good environmental hygiene to provide a free service for the destruction of rats and mice to all domestic premises. This cost is now the equivalent of about a $\frac{1}{3}d.$ rate and must be considered money well spent when one realises the amount of spoilage caused by the rat population.

So far as industrial, business, or farm premises are concerned, destruction work is undertaken on a contract basis or at a charge of 10/- per hour plus cost of materials. Ready-mixed bait is made available for sale when necessary. A small charge is also made for dealing with other types of pests.

Good facilities exist at the Council's Oakington Depot. for storage and mixing of baits and poisons. For general use Warfarin is found to be the most convenient and effective poison when mixed with wheat or barley meal, although trials are being carried out with chlorophacinone in mineral oil, which is also an anti-coagulant, where wet conditions exist. So far there is no evidence of immunity in the rat population to these poisons and it has only rarely been found necessary to use zinc phosphide. Alpha-chloralose has now become the usual treatment for mice in domestic dwellings where the temperature is low enough, otherwise Warfarin continues to be used.

As will be seen from Table No. 7 the year has again been a very busy one for both the Council's Pests Officer and his Operator, reaching a peak from November to February. This was believed to be partly due to the wet summer when rats appear to breed more prolifically and, of course, the exceptionally heavy rainfall during the latter part of the year which resulted in fields of unharvested corn providing ready food supplies for the rat population. Flooding had the effect of driving them out of burrows to seek shelter in unproofed buildings, etc.

A large part of the staff's time has been devoted to treatment on Council properties including public ditches and watercourses, refuse tips and sewage works, where in some cases it has been found necessary to maintain permanent baiting points.

It will also be noted from the Tables that moles, beetles, cockroaches, rabbits, ants, wasps, fleas and bats were all dealt with during the year. In one of the bat roosts receiving treatment ticks of the Argus Vespertilionous species were discovered which proved to be of special interest to the Molteno Institute in Cambridge and The British Museum because although well known and widely recorded they had not previously been found in the adult stage in the United Kingdom. Unfortunately, by the time identification was completed fumigation and cleaning up had been so successfully carried out that no further specimens were available. However, six bodies remained and at the time of writing these are being studied by experts in Egypt.

The following Tables show a brief summary of work carried out during the twelve months ending 31 December, 1968.

TABLE No. 7

	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
Approximate total number of properties in the area	18,381	1,168
Total number of properties inspected following notification	1,464	35
Number of properties found to be infested		
(i) rats	1,445	34
(ii) mice	29	—
Total properties inspected for reasons other than notification	176	6
Number found to be infested		
(i) rats	7	—
(ii) mice	—	—

A summary of the results achieved during this period is as follows:

Rats and Mice

	Premises	Rats Recovered
Private dwellings treated	1,162	2,931
Business Premises treated	248	1,811
Refuse Tips, etc.	202	1,462
Sewage Works, etc.	8	242
Drains, Sewers, Ditches	38	—
Total	1,658	6,446

Estimated Total Rats Killed (12 months) 25,784

Other Pests

Pests	Premises treated
Moles	8
Beetles/Cockroaches	27
Rabbits	9
Ants	13
Wasps	64
Bats	4
Fleas	4

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956 and 1968

The Clean Air Act was first introduced in 1956. It prohibited the emission of dark smoke from chimneys, required that new furnaces should as far as practicable be smokeless, with grit and dust emissions reduced to a minimum, gave some measure of control over the height of chimneys and provided for the abatement of smoke nuisances.

The Clean Air Act, 1968 which is to be brought into operation from the 1 April, 1969 is intended to provide further control over smoke, grit and dust emissions and wider powers are given to control chimney heights.

Since the introduction of the 1956 legislation 225 installations have received prior approval out of which 67 domestic and 9 industrial furnaces were notified during the year ending 31 December, 1968.

The present trend appears to be towards the use of piped fuels which are cleaner and more convenient in use and so far as gas is concerned saves valuable storage space.

Plant manufacturers, heating engineers and most architects are aware of requirements so that few modifications are found to be necessary and the services of the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service rarely have to be used.

No Statutory Action was necessary during the year although 38 visits including smoke observations were carried out.

Problems, however, still exist in connection with car breakers premises where old vehicle bodies and tyres are burnt in the open and it is felt that eventually smokeless incinerators will have to be provided by this ever growing industry.

Three members of the staff have completed special training for the Smoke Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1957

Only one factory is engaged in manufacturing new upholstered furniture using specified materials and this is registered as required under the above Act.

No formal action was necessary during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act enables Local Authorities to control premises where pet animals are kept for sale.

Following inspection, three such premises in the area were licensed during 1968 for dealing in tropical fish.

No markets are held in the Council's area.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Complaints received during the year were concerned with four sources of noise, three of which were from factories and the fourth found to be caused by hi-fi enthusiasts and disc jockeys testing amplifiers, etc., in a garage on a high density housing estate, very often until the early hours of the morning. They responded readily to reason and no further complaints have been received.

With regard to the factory noises all three were concerned with machinery housed in corrugated asbestos buildings. Noise has been reduced to a tolerable level by keeping doors closed and screening in two cases. In the third situation air compressors serving a laundry were housed outside the main building in an asbestos lean-to shelter with ill fitting doors and ventilation holes directly through the rear brick wall into the factory itself. As a result of action by the Department, the whole of the compressor units are being surrounded by brickwork and properly designed ventilation ducts provided to the external air.

Also during the year, all contractors in the area were asked to provide mufflers to concrete breakers and the Council's Engineer and Surveyor is now including a clause in all engineering contracts requiring mufflers to be fitted to breakers and similar machinery.

During the year two Inspectors attended an advanced course on Noise Measurement and Control.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Under this Act all premises used in connection with the boarding of cats and dogs are required to be registered by the Local Authority—and licences are only issued when satisfactory arrangements are provided by way of accommodation, feeding and isolation. The initial inspection of premises is carried out by a Veterinary Surgeon retained for the purpose, after which follow up visits are made by the Council's own Inspectors to ensure that a good standard is maintained.

Seven such licences were issued during the year representing a total boarding accommodation in the district for 333 dogs and 184 cats.

No cases of ill treatment or cruelty were noted during the year.

RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT, 1960

Persons who keep or use radioactive materials are required under the above Act to be registered with the Minister of Housing and Local Government and must obtain special authorisation from him for the accumulation and disposal of radioactive wastes.

Local Authorities may, after consultation, be requested to accept and deal with these wastes at their refuse tips in accordance with the Minister's authorisation. Disposal is usually by conventional methods, i.e. discharge to sewers, incineration or burial in refuse tips with certain safeguards. No requests for disposal facilities have been received since the Act came into force.

Apart from the above the Council has no jurisdiction under the Act, but copies of all registrations and authorisation certificates are sent to the County and District Councils concerned, who, in turn, may notify other interested authorities such as the River Board and Fire Authority.

Copies of the following Certificates have been received:

Certificate of Registration (Sec. 1)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Certificate of Authorisation for Disposal (Sec. 6 (2) )	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Notice of Revocation of Authorisation (Sec. 6/7)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

BAKEHOUSES

Only seven village bakehouses now remain out of the twenty-three registered in 1950. This perhaps is only to be expected considering the intense competition from large multiple bakeries. Years ago the retail distribution of bakery products was usually confined to the local bakers' shops but now that such goods are pre-packed they are freely available from grocery and general stores whilst delivery van drivers tend to become appointed Franchised Agents for the larger bakeries.

From a Public Health point of view the pre-wrapping of foodstuffs has been welcomed in the interests of food hygiene but the main reason for its popularity with the trade is that it prevents staling and promotes moisture retention. This is the reason why waxed, moisture-proof paper is mainly used being also opaque to both sunlight and artificial lights. Similarly light cardboard packs are usual for cakes and pastries to prevent the staling effect of light.

With these improvements in shelf life it has become necessary for coding systems to be devised so that withdrawal of remaining stock can be effected at the right time and all but the smaller bakehouses are, in fact, operating this type of system. Most of the codings have been made available to the Department which is of considerable assistance when investigating complaints.

Supply of bread particularly on a 'sale or return' basis is often the cause of complaints unless adequate stock rotation procedures are strictly adhered to.

PRESERVED FOOD PREMISES (Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955)

Total number on Register at 31.12.68	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	193
Sausage Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Fish Fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Ice Cream (Sale Only)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	168

Premises used in connection with the manufacture, storage or sale of ice-cream and the preparation or manufacture of certain meat and fish products are the only food premises required to be registered

with the Local Authority. This has the great advantage of enabling a satisfactory standard to be required before registration is granted, a procedure which could, with advantage, be extended to all food premises.

No ice-cream is manufactured in the area and the 168 registrations are for sale only—mostly pre-packed products by well known national suppliers. There is also a limited sale of soft ice-cream from mobile vans based outside the Council's area but close liaison is maintained with the other Authorities concerned to ensure that adequate attention is paid to the cleansing and sterilisation of freezer/dispensers.

Action under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations was not found necessary during the year.

FOOD SHOPS, CAFES AND OTHER FOOD PREMISES

The following premises are subject to inspection by the Department in addition to those mentioned elsewhere:

Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	219
Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	119
Licensed Clubs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Off Licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Residential Establishments, Hospitals, Homes, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Factory Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
School Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24

As a result of 575 visits recorded the following improvements have been noted during the year:

New Shop Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Structural Improvements (New floors, ceilings, wall surfaces, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
New hand washing facilities	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Hot water systems—new or improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
New fittings, refrigerators, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Redecoration	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Improved Lighting	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Improved Temperature/ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
First Aid Kits supplied	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
New Sanitary Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Improved Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

The more obvious requirements of good food hygiene are generally acknowledged both by the food handlers themselves and the public, not only as a result of the efforts of the Public Health Inspectors but by virtue of the assistance given by radio, television and publicity by the various food trades themselves. To this extent our task has been made easier. It would be foolish indeed not to acknowledge the very high standard now set by most of the nationally known suppliers—often much higher than the minimum which can be enforced under the Food Hygiene Regulations. Not only is this true of their own premises and products but they can, when placing large orders for produce from smaller manufacturers, dictate the standards of food hygiene required before acceptance and these are usually of a very high order.

Food production, storage and distribution nowadays involves a great deal of centralisation, mechanisation and pre-packaging and whilst this has often served to simplify the maintenance of good hygienic standards it has also introduced other more sophisticated problems concerned with adequate temperature control, proper stock rotation and suitable date coding of perishable produce. In the past, the Department's work has been concentrated on securing adequate standards of equipment—particularly hand washing equipment and the need for strict personal hygiene on the part of food handlers. Nowadays, our efforts are directed towards the elimination of conditions and practices conducive to the spread of food poisoning organisms, e.g. adequate temperature control of foodstuffs, the separation of raw meat and cooked meats, etc. Great efforts are made also to ensure that any food handlers suffering from, or in contact with, enteric infections are promptly excluded from work until cleared and if necessary compensation is paid for loss of earnings.

The Department is fortunate in enjoying excellent relationships with all concerned with food preparation or sale, including the larger catering establishments such as Hospitals, Factory Canteens and the School Meals Service, right down to the small village stores most of whom have been known to the Department for many years. Often these premises are visited for other purposes such as staff welfare and safety as required by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 and this all helps to ensure a close liaison with the management.

There is still room for improvement in the proper use of refrigeration in the storage of foodstuffs and whilst most manufacturers provide guidance on these matters there is a constant need for the shopkeepers' methods to be reviewed and improved. Customers should be kept informed of the correct temperatures at which products may be stored and more use should be made of easily readable thermometers in refrigerated display cabinets.

During 1968 the new Imported Food Regulations were introduced, mainly to meet the requirements of the new container transport system now gaining in popularity. It seems inevitable that as traffic from the Continent increases examination at the Port of entry will not always be possible and will be deferred until the containers arrive at the proposed Inland Container Depots (I.C.D.'s) which are being established with full customs facilities throughout the country. The Department is likely to be involved eventually either through the Airport or at the premises of some of the larger distribution and manufacturing concerns in the area.

It is of interest to record that checks on insecticidal vaporisers installed in food preparation rooms for the destruction of flying insects revealed several being charged with DDT or DDT/Gammexane materials contrary to the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. (The use of these products is not recommended where food remains exposed for more than 12 hours). The suppliers concerned eventually substituted Dichlorvos—this having the advantage that any residual either evaporates or is destroyed by cooking.

The number of complaints of unfit food received by the Department during the year was relatively small and mostly concerned with mould, staleness, dirty or stained milk bottles and 'foreign bodies' in such items as preserves, tinned goods, etc.

In these days of large scale mechanisation of processes an occasional incident of this kind is inevitable notwithstanding the most careful precautions instituted by the manufacturers. Only in cases where gross negligence can be demonstrated is legal action resorted to, as from experience much more effective results can be achieved by follow-up investigations at the production end with a view to determining the cause of the trouble and eliminating it at source. Manufacturers appreciate this approach and invariably offer complete co-operation including direct compensation to the complainant. There is a danger, however, of either unfounded complaints being made merely for profit or that complainants will elect to deal direct with the suppliers rather than the Local Authority for the same reason—which in the long term is likely to prove much less effective.

The Department continues to exercise vigilance in the case of mobile shops and delivery vehicles, etc., to ensure compliance with the more stringent requirements of the Food Hygiene (Market, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations introduced in 1967. Co-operation with Public Health Departments of adjoining districts where delivery vehicles are based outside the Council's area ensures effective action and little difficulty has been experienced during the year. Patience is often needed, however, to convince the small trader of the need for adequate hand washing facilities on his vehicle and the pre-packing of goods is thereby encouraged so as to avoid this expense.

The Council has no markets in the area, but considerable improvement has been effected in the conditions under which such things as fruit and vegetables are sold from the roadside.

LICENSED PREMISES

In 1946 the condition of many of the Licensed Premises in the area was so bad that a detailed survey was undertaken and a comprehensive programme of improvement inaugurated with the full co-operation of the 12 Brewers concerned. Since that time only 119 licensed premises remain of the 154 originally listed and indeed only six Brewers now own property in the area. Licenses have been surrendered in respect of the more unsatisfactory premises which were not economically viable and with the co-operation of the Licensing Justices the standard of the remainder has been raised substantially. Such premises now have good sanitary accommodation and hand washing facilities for the use of staff and customers together with adequate glass washing facilities, etc.

The pattern of trade has, however, changed and most licencees depend to some extent on the sale of snacks and meals to supplement their beer sales. In some cases considerable catering is undertaken and particular attention is paid to such premises by the Department in order to secure adequate facilities for the preparation of foodstuffs under hygienic conditions. Not all Breweries are prepared to acknowledge this side of the trade and sometimes are reluctant to offer any financial or practical assistance, leaving the tenant responsible for this aspect, often resulting in the use (at least initially) of the domestic kitchen or other ill-equipped premises.

On the whole, a good relationship exists between the Department and the various Breweries, Landlords and Managers, and the necessity for a high standard of hygiene is generally appreciated. One must, however, accept that both the owners and the traders face considerable financial limitations at the present time and works of improvement must of necessity be programmed as far as possible according to their urgency and the funds currently available. The abolition of the system of 'tied' houses as advocated by the Monopolies Commission might be a retrograde step, however, from a public health point of view and without the backing of the large Breweries might render it even more difficult to secure the necessary high standards.

Where staff are employed the licensed premises are also required to be registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 and are also visited in connection with the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Acts. Good liaison with the management is thereby facilitated.

During the year 100 visits were paid to such premises for these purposes. One new licensed house was built during the year to replace an unsatisfactory one.

MILK SUPPLY

Number of Wholesale Producers in the Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Number of Producer/Retailers in the Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of Retail Purveyors in the Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Number of Distributors with Premises in the Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	15

Milk retailed in the area is now either sterilised, pasteurised or raw from Tuberculin Tested Herds.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority are mainly responsible for the supervision of milk production and processing whilst the District Council continues to register dairies and distributors and is concerned with the general hygiene of premises and distribution.

During the year three samples of raw milk submitted for biological examination were found to be free from Tuberculosis and Brucella Abortus. Brucella Abortus is now the only animal disease of any significance (in terms of numbers) transmissible via milk in this Country to man. It was pleasing, therefore, to see the introduction of a control scheme in 1967 to eliminate the disease.

Two sets of churns tested for cleanliness were found to be satisfactory and one milk bottle out of six submitted for a colony count test failed to reach the recognised standard.

On the whole, milk supplies have reached a high standard of purity and cleanliness and the only problems now encountered are concerned with the sterilisation and cleansing of bottles usually resulting from misuse by householders.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act is aimed at safeguarding the health, welfare and safety of the many non-industrial workers not covered by the Factories Acts. Administration of the Act is divided between Local Authority and Factory Inspectorate with the latter responsible for premises owned by the Crown and Local Authorities or used for factory or railway purposes. The Fire Authority has overall responsibility for sections dealing with Fire Precautions.

The Act requires certain standards to be attained in relation to Lighting, Temperature, Cleanliness, Ventilation, Sanitary Accommodation, Washing Facilities, Seating Accommodation, Safety, Overcrowding, First Aid Equipment, etc., and the reporting of all accidents where any person is prevented from following his occupation for more than three days. This applies to all premises within the District in which the sum of hours worked by employees is normally more than 21 each week.

Since the initial inspection of all premises was completed in 1966 the aim has been to carry out annual re-visits. During 1968 154 premises were re-inspected out of a total of 212 on the register and the 30 contraventions brought to the notice of management were mainly of a minor nature. In only one case was it found necessary to take legal proceedings.

The following report was submitted to the Minister of Labour on the 27 February, 1969:

1. Registration of Premises

Premises registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 numbered 212 at the 31 December, 1968 showing an increase of 31 over the previous year. As is to be expected in a rural area the majority of the premises (65%) are shops with offices (16½%) and catering establishments (15%).

2. Operation of the General Provisions of the Act

It is now some two years since most of the premises were initially inspected and follow-up visits show that requirements have been met in full. Our work is now, therefore, mainly concerned with maintaining and improving on the standards already achieved. Arrangements have been made to scrutinise all plans submitted under the Building Regulations so that advice can be offered at planning stage, saving both time and expense.

Existing buildings which are brought into use present a more difficult problem as many people setting up in business for the first time appear to be unaware of the necessity for registration under the Act. In a way, this is not surprising when one considers the amount of legislation controlling different workplaces.

Inspectors are now developing a lively interest in the prevention of accidents and it is obvious from the frequent reference in reports to faulty floor coverings, obstructed passage-ways, trailing cables, broken handrails faulty and poorly lit steps, etc., that this awareness is being carried on to other premises which do not, in fact, come within the scope of the Act.

Five accidents were notified and investigated during the year. In one case an employee lifting goods from prefabricated racking slipped, catching his wedding ring on the top of a projecting upright stripping his finger, which resulted in amputation. This possible hazard was brought to the notice of the manufacturers concerned so that now plastic cappings are available and modified rounded edges to shelves are being manufactured.

In only one case was it found necessary to prosecute, this being for failure to provide an adequate wholesome supply of water, Section 11 (1); washing facilities for employees, Section 10 (1); first aid box as specified Section 24 (1) and not having an Abstract of the Act on display. The defendant was fined a total of £10. 0s. 0d., and ordered to pay £10. 0s. 0d., towards the costs.

TABLE A
REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of Premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Offices	7	38	18
Retail Shops	21	138	72
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	2	5	2
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens	1	24	16
Fuel Storage Depots	—	7	2
Totals	31	212	110

TABLE B

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS (INCLUDING GENERAL INSPECTIONS) TO
REGISTERED PREMISES 154

TABLE C

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED
PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
(1)	(2)
Offices	248
Retail Shops	468
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	21
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens	118
Fuel Storage Depots	12
Total	867
Total Males	385
Total Females	482

MEAT INSPECTION

Three slaughterhouses operate in the Council's area of which two are owned by retailers and used solely for their own trade. The third is larger and besides offering slaughtering facilities to butchers in the area exports a limited amount of meat mainly to the London Market.

All three premises comply with the requirements of the Slaughterhouses Act 1958 and are subject to quarterly inspections by the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. They are in each case adaptations of existing buildings and considered to be good examples of the type of premises suitable for the smaller trader. Modern equipment such as electric saws and hoists are slowly being introduced to facilitate slaughtering but having provided suitable premises and equipment good management is of equal importance if the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations are to be totally observed.

A 100% meat inspection service has been maintained since the 1st July, 1954 and is carried out in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Meat Regulations, 1963 following which carcasses are stamped if passed fit for human consumption. The throughput is not great and nowadays little overtime is involved.

The Council's scale of charges for inspection of carcasses remains as follows:

Bovine Animal	.. .. .	2/6d.
Calf or Pig	.. .. .	9d.
Sheep or Lamb	.. .. .	6d.

and as shown in Table No. 8 resulted in an income during 1968 of £152.11s. 9d. The table also shows a decrease in numbers of approximately 30% of all animals slaughtered during the year as compared with 1967.

The incidence of disease and abnormalities shows little change and again during the year not a single case of tuberculosis was detected. Only one carcase of beef was found to be infected with *cysticercus bovis* (representing 0.29%) being again a decrease on last year's figures and well below the national average.

The advice and assistance of the Public Health Laboratory Service, the Divisional Veterinary Officer and the Veterinary Investigation Centre is again gratefully acknowledged.

The Section of the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) (Amendment) Regulations, 1966 prohibiting the use of wiping cloths in dressing carcasses came into operation on the first of November 1968, and five water sprays are now in use.

All Inspectors in the Department have attended a course on Poultry Inspection and random inspections are carried out at poultry premises within the district. These are mainly small premises and no large scale poultry processing is carried out in the area.

TABLE No. 8
SUMMARY OF MEAT INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER, 1968

	Cattle not Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs not Sows	Sows	Sheep Lambs
Animals killed and inspected	331	9	6	2,093	4	1,279
All Diseases Except T.B. Whole carcasses and offal condemned	—	—	—	1	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	29	—	—	94	—	5
% of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	8.8%	—	—	4.5%	—	0.4%
T.B. Only Whole carcasses and offal condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
% of number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Organs of Parts Condemned—All Diseases						
Head	1	—	—	1	—	—
Lungs	3	—	—	40	—	—
Heart	1	—	—	20	—	—
Liver	21	—	—	54	—	3
Spleen	1	—	—	2	—	—
Diaph. . . .	2	—	—	—	—	1
Kidney	—	—	—	4	—	—
Stom. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mes. . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	3	—	—	7	—	1
TOTAL	32	—	—	128	—	5
Cysticercosis				Income from Meat Inspection		
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned					£	s. d.
				Beef	42	10 0
				Pork	78	2 3
				Mutton	31	19 6
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration				TOTAL	£152	11 9

TABLE No. 9
SUMMARY OF CARCASSES AND ORGANS CONDEMNED FOR TUBERCULOSIS
for years 1958-68

YEAR	CATTLE				COWS				CALVES				PIGS				SOWS		
	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts	%	Total Kill	Whole carcasses con-demned	Parts
1958	1,139	3	51	4.7	36	—	—	—	58	—	—	—	3,483	—	48	1.35	32	—	—
1959	1,039	—	11	1.05	53	—	—	—	70	—	—	—	3,219	—	25	0.77	22	—	—
1960	933	—	3	0.32	46	1	—	2.17	47	—	—	—	2,395	—	21	0.88	41	—	—
1961	762	—	1	0.1	24	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	2,626	—	9	0.3	58	—	—
1962	668	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	2,038	—	7	0.3	32	—	—
1963	712	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	2,236	—	10	0.5	9	—	—
1964	711	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	2,749	—	5	0.2	30	—	—
1965	575	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	2,906	—	1	0.03	9	—	—
1966	539	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	2,617	—	—	—	11	—	—
1967	567	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	2,335	—	—	—	3	—	—
1968	331	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	2,093	—	—	—	4	—	—

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1933-58

Licences to Slaughter Renewed	7
New Licences Issued	Nil
Total on Register at 31.12.68	7

It is perhaps indicative of the changes in the industry that only seven persons in the whole of the area are now licensed to slaughter animals (62 were so licensed in 1938).

The concentration of slaughtering in fewer premises enables much better supervision to be exercised however and notwithstanding the constant vigilance of the Inspectors no case of unnecessary suffering to animals was noted during the year. The only action required under the Prevention of Cruelty Regulations was to secure improved drinking water supplies for animals awaiting slaughter.

There are no longer any horse slaughtering establishments or knackers yards in the area.

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 13.12.68

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (Including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	170	150	16	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	43	14	1	—
Total	213	164	17	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of Cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)		By H.M. Inspector (5)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	8	8	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	3	2	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	18	16	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	5	5	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	1	1	—	—	—
Total	35	32	—	—	—

OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel						
Making, etc.	30	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—

R. I. Severs Ltd. Cambridge

